Message Text

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FROM USIS/JOHANNESBURG

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SUBJECT: TEXT OF NAMIBIA/SWA BROADCAST NOV 23

SUMMARY: FOLLOWING IS EDITORIAL COMMENTARY ON NAMIBIA/SWA BROADCAST MORNING NOV 23 ON PRO-SAG SOUTH AFRICAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING PRIME-TIME MORNING NEWSCAST. FULL TEXT:

1. WHEN SWAPO -- THE SOUTH WEST AFRICAN PEOPLE'S ORGANIZATION -- SAYS IT WANTS TO CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE "BIG FIVE", AND THAT IT APPRECIATES THE ROLE BEING PLAYED BY THESE FIVE COUNTRIES IN FINDING AN ACCEPTABLE INTERNATIONAL SETTLEMENT FOR SOUTH WEST AFRICA, THIS MUST BE REGARDED AS AN ATTITUDE FOR EXPEDIENCY RATHER THAN REASONABLENESS. FOR INDEED, SO FAR SWAPO HAS FOUND NO NEED UNCLASSIFIED

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NOT TO SUPPORT THE WESTERN INITIATIVE.

2. NOT ONLY ARE THE ACTIVITIES OF THESE REPRESENTATIVES
CONTINUING TO CREATE THE IMPRESSION OF A CRISIS SITUATION IN
SOUTH WEST AFRICA, THEREBY HOLDING THE WORLD NEWS HEADLINES, BUT
DURING THEIR PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS IN PRETORIA THE WESTERN
POWERS MADE IT CLEAR THAT THEY WERE DOING LITTLE MORE THAN

FIGHTING THE SWAPO BATTLE ON THE DIPLOMATIC FRONT. THIS BECAUSE IN SO FAR AS SWA IS CONCERNED, RSA HAS AGREED TO AND HAS IMPLEMENTED, OR IS IMPLEMENTING EVERY SINGLE ORIGINAL DEMAND MADE OF HER BY THE U.N. YET THE WEST REFUSES TO TAKE A STAND IN RSA'S FAVOR

3. GRANTED, THERE ARE SOME REPORTS NOW OF WESTERN PRESSURE
ON SWAPO TO TAKE PART IN ELECTIONS IN THE TERRITORY -- BUT ONE IS
CONSTANTLY LEFT WITH THE IMPRESSION THAT THE WESTERN REPRESENTATIVES
CONDUCT THEIR NEGOTIATIONS WITH SWAPO FROM A KNEELING POSITION.
LAST MONTH THEY SPENT FIVE DAYS NEGOTIATING WITH SWAPO MEN AND
THEIR LEADER -- SAM NUJOMA -- BUT REPORTS INDICATED THAT NO
PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE AND A FEW DAYS LATER NUJOMA STATED THAT ALL
SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS HAD TO GET OUT OF THE TERRITORY BEFORE
ELECTIONS COULD BE HELD. NOT A SINGLE SUGGESTION HAS BEEN MADE
OF SWAPO RECIPROCATING -- IN FACT, SWAPO HAS JUST ANNOUNCED
THAT IT IS SET TO LAUNCH ITS BIGGEST TERRORIST OFFENSIVE YET.

4. MEANWHILE SWAPO IS NOT WITHOUT ITS OWN INTERNAL PROBLEMS RESULTING FROM THE TURNHALLE PLAN. IT HAS HAD TO COPE WITH NUMEROUS DEFECTIONS BY ITS LEADERS WHO SEE IN THE TURNHALLE PLAN GREATER HOPE FOR PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT THAN THAT OFFERED BY SWAPO -- AND WHO RESENT SAM NUJOMA'S CLOSE COMMUNIST CONNECTIONS. ALSO, THEIR WIDELY PUBLICISED REPORTS OF CORRUPTION WITHIN SWAPO AND THE MISERABLE PLIGHT OF THE TERRORISTS WHILE THEIR LEADERS LIVE IN LUXURY HAS BEEN A BLOW UNCLASSIFIED

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TO MORALE AND HAS CAUSED WIDESPREAD DISSATISFACTION AMONG THE RANK-AND-FILE.

5. SO NOW ONCE AGAIN THE BIG FIVE CONTACT GROUP IS SWINGING THROUGH AFRICA--TO END UP IN PRETORIA PROBABLY SOME TIME NEXT MONTH. WHAT THEY WILL HAVE TO OFFER--IT SEEMS-- WILL BE LITTLE MORE THAN THEIR SERVICES AS SWAPO'S "LEG MEN" WHO HAVE RETURNED TO RE-TELL THE STORY OF SWAPO INTRANSIGENCE. AS FAR AS THE SAG IS CONCERNED: IT HAS INDICATED THAT IT HAS MOVED AS FAR AS IT IS PREPARED TO MOVE AND, MORE IMPORTANT, AS FAR AS IT WAS INITIALLY EXPECTED TO MOVE BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. IT WOULD BE INTERESTING TO HEAR THE EXCHANGE IN PRETORIA NEXT MONTH WHEN THE PRIME MINISTER OR THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ASKS DELEGATION LEADER MCHENRY WHAT THEY HAVE ACHIEVED SINCE THE LAST MEETING AND WHEN MR. MCHENRY RE-HASHES THE OLD, OLD SWAPO STORY.

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Subject: TEXT OF NAMIBIA/SWA BROADCAST NOV 23 SUMMARY: FOLLOWING IS EDITORIAL COMMENTARY ON NAMIBIA/SWA BROADCAST

MORNING NOV 23 ON PRO-SAG SOUTH AFRICAN TAGS: SOPN, PDEV, WA, SF

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